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UPDATE REGARDING IN-PERSON GATHERINGS AT THE UMC OF BEREA

As some segments of our society have begun to “re-open” following our period of stay-at-home orders, some of us may be wondering when and how The UMC of Berea will resume in-person gatherings, including Sunday morning worship services. For now, the simple answer is that we do not yet know when we will do so, but based on the guidance of public health officials and the practices of others in our United Methodist connection, we do not believe it to be in the best interest of our community members to do so immediately. When this changes—perhaps sometime in June or July—we will utilize our website, weekly e-newsletters, and phone calls from care leaders to keep you informed. In the meantime, if you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 440-234-3525 x101 or nhowe@umcb.org.

Whenever we do resume in-person gatherings, however, there are some basic practices we will follow:

Physical distancing and face coverings will be the norm.

Seats will be marked and separated for a minimum of six feet of physical distancing between individuals/households, meaning that you may not be able to sit where you sat pre-pandemic. All persons will be expected to wear a face covering inside our building, and if you are feeling sick or symptomatic, please stay at home.

Worship will look, sound, and feel different.

Adjustments will be made with the intent to limit the possibility for passing on the coronavirus known as COVID-19. Many of these adjustments are unfortunate and will go against the grain of our worship expectations and desires. However, please remember that all changes are being made out of the guiding principles of respecting the life and health of every person and loving our neighbors well.

The decision to stay home will be respected.

Many of us are in high-risk categories, have family members with compromised health conditions, or otherwise may feel generally uncomfortable meeting in person. The decision not to resume worshipping or otherwise gathering in person is a valid and important decision, and we will offer grace to one another regardless of the personal decisions we make. Those who stay at home are encouraged to participate in live broadcasts of worship on Sundays at 11 AM on our Facebook page or by phone - see the next page for more information. Each of us is encouraged to reach out and stay connected with members of our community by phone, mail, and internet.

The pandemic is not over, and in-person gatherings will not be without risk.

While we will make every effort to increase cleaning and sanitation practices, and all persons will be asked to maintain safe distancing and wear face coverings, nonetheless, anyone who attends a public gathering must recognize that there will be a risk of contracting COVID-19 despite all the precautions we will take to reduce that risk. As such, individuals in high-risk categories are strongly encouraged not to gather in person even once we resume such gatherings. Likewise, anyone who is ill, experiencing symptoms, or recently having been in contact with someone experiencing symptoms should stay at home. We will continue broadcasting live worship services for the foreseeable future.

As always, remember that no matter how long we remain apart physically, none of us ever is alone. I am grateful for each of you, for the ways you are caring for your neighbors, and I cannot wait to gather in person with you again soon.

Shalom,
Pastor Nathan



RESOURCES FOR STAYING CONNECTED—ONLINE AND BY PHONE

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES

LIVE AT 11 AM

Join us in worship online through Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos). (No Facebook account is required.) If you have a Facebook account, like or follow our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/umcberea) for easier access to our live broadcast.

Worship bulletins can be accessed in advance at www.umcb.org/sermons.

If you do not have online access, you can use your telephone to join us for audio only of the worship service: dial **1-888-788-0099**, and enter meeting ID **961 8451 9312** when prompted to do so.

Each week's worship service will be available to view after the live broadcast at www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos, and all videos, sermons, and bulletins from previous Sundays are available at www.umcb.org/sermons.

WEEKDAY MORNING PRAYER

MONDAYS—FRIDAYS, 9 AM

Join Pastor Nathan for 15 minutes of praise, prayer, and scripture, every weekday at 9 AM.

Join us online: <https://zoom.us/j/518014483>
or by phone: dial **1-888-788-0099** and enter meeting ID **518 014 483**.

COMMUNITY SMALL GROUP

WEDNESDAYS AT 7 PM

Join us as we consider what we are grateful for, what we are anxious about, and what we are learning day by day and week by week.

Join us online: <https://zoom.us/j/487816871>
or by phone: dial **1-888-788-0099** and enter meeting ID **487 816 871**

ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO GIVE

Even during this season of social distancing, many of you have remained committed to living your discipleship and supporting our mission and ministry together by giving your tithes and offerings online (www.umcb.org/donate) or by mailing a check to the church office.

Your financial gifts are more important now than ever in helping us to keep making and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Thank you!

PASTORAL CARE & PRAYER REQUESTS

Please reach to me (440-234-3525 x101 or nhowe@umcb.org) if you would like to schedule an individual time to talk or have a specific prayer request. Likewise, if you find yourself needing food or other supplies and unable to get them, please do not hesitate to contact me; we have a team of generous servants ready to respond.



CHURCH FAMILY PRAYER CONCERNS

MEMBERS

- Bruce Akins
- Betty Atherton
- Heidi Blue
- Jean Brenneison
- Barba Dawson
- Cleda Fletcher
- Molly Force
- Carol Heskett
- Mary Lou Hunger
- Jack Irely
- Larry Jelinek
- Joyce McGee
- Betty Miller
- Judy Mollison
- Rev. Cal Myers
- Donna O'Brien
- Esther O'Hearn
- Donald Powers
- Lou Russell
- Russ Sanderson
- Carol Thompson
- Kathleen Wargelin
- Gloria Wharton
- Megan Williams

MILITARY

- J.D. Ferut (grandson of Gerry & Jo Boggs)
- Ryan Hopkins
- Ron Krueger (son-in-law of Georgiann Baesel)
- Bill Lambert (son-in-law of Corky Cline)
- Ben Lebrun
- Zachary New (grandson of Bob & Jackie King)

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- Harry (4/22/20, brother of Verlaine Anderson)
- Joshua Baker (2/26/20, grandson of Nancy Best)
- Marc Bittinger **
- Terri Christian (10/1/19, mother of Pastor Carrie Antczak)
- Patty (4/21/20, cousin of Barb Dawson)
- Amanda, Dan, & baby Devin DeNardy (4/30/20, family of Darlene Anderson)
- AmyMarie Dziak (10/13/19, daughter of Marlynda Dziak)
- Spencer Gehring # **
- Russell Hovorka (5/10/18, husband of Diane Hovorka)
- Jack Howe (2/20/20, Parent of Pastor Nathan & Megan Howe)
- Sylvie Isgro-Schicker #
- Paul McMillin (3/22/20, son of Andrew & Christine McMillin)
- Mark Nath (4/25/20, friend of Larry Jelinek)
- Jeremy Piper**
- Tim Stevens & his family (5/3/20, son of Jan & Paul Harlamert)
- Chet Talarczyk (1/10/19, husband of Judy Talarczyk)
- Maria Villa (4/08/20, niece of Russ & Ruthann Simon)
- Harlan Waid (4/24/20, parent of Pastor Nathan & Megan Howe)
- Julie Wharton (10/25/19, daughter of Hal & Gloria Wharton)

MEMBERS AT HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

- Dick Baker (Devon Oaks, Westlake)
- Shirley Bedford (Independence Village)
- Ann Benson (Western Reserve-Medina)
- Donna Dial (Kemper House)
- Pat Harf (Vitalia Senior Residences, Strongsville)
- Janice Kavander
- Pat Sarka (Gardens at Westlake)
- Barbara Scoon (Generations)
- Edna Thomason (Symphony)
- Ruth Vrana (Generations, Strongsville)
- Bob Warner (Kemper House, Strongsville)
- Eva Williamson (Western Reserve-Medina)

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY AND LOVE

We reach out in Christian sympathy and love to Carl Mollison and the Mollison family. Carl's sister, Joyce, went on to rest in God's eternal peace.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

Prayers of thanksgiving for the birth of a baby girl to Keith & Jill Radney. (From Larry Jelinek)

Prayers of thanksgiving for the birth of a baby boy, Devon, to Amanda & Dan DeNardy, family of Darlene Anderson

To receive Prayer Concerns by email, please email the **Church Office** at info@umcb.org.

If you know of someone needing care or a visit, please contact the **Church Office** (info@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x100) or **Pastor Nathan** (nhowe@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x101).

CONNECTING, INVITING, & WELCOMING



CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

FRIDAYS BEGINNING JUNE 5, 9 AM

Children's Chapel moves to 9 AM on Fridays beginning June 5. Join us on Zoom for a half hour of praise, Bible stories, prayer, and more fun. Come in your jammies from your living room, yard, sandbox, or wherever!

All are welcome, so please invite your young friends!

For more information, contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.



SENIOR SUNDAY

JUNE 7, 2020

High School

- Amber Blevins
- Mallory Redetzki
- Olivia Rentsch
- Grace Sperry
- Kayla Wood

College

Erikah Jackson

Seminary

Megan Buehler

I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the LORD; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope.

Jeremiah 29:11(CEB)

CONNECTING, INVITING, & WELCOMING



GAME NIGHT

JUNE 3, 8 PM

Join us on Zoom for game night on June 3 at 8 PM! We'll play some fun games over our video call - feel free to bring snacks that you won't have to share! Jammies are just fine, and a good sense of humor a must!

Join us at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85075480326>. Meeting ID: 850 7548 0326.

For more information, contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.



To our Friends at The United Methodist Church of Berea,

On behalf of Berea Community Outreach, a non-profit partnership between the City of Berea and the Berea Community Development Corporation, I want to thank you for always thinking of us! Your donation will help those in need especially during this crisis.

This donation will not only be used to feed our community through our regular programs, but also for the many initiatives we will put into place as a result of the COVID-19 virus.

We value our partnership and again want to thank you for your volunteerism, fundraising and unwavering commitment to making our community better.

Sincerely,
Cyril Kleem, Mayor, City of Berea
Natalie Guzzo, Administrator, Social and Senior Services

SHARING GOD'S LOVE



<p>Sunday, June 7, 2020</p> <p>Trinity Sunday Peace with Justice Sunday</p>	<p><i>Genesis 1.1 - 2.4a</i> <i>Psalms 8 (UMH 743)</i> <i>2 Corinthians 13.11-13</i> <i>Matthew 28.16-20</i></p>	<p><i>For Reflection and Conversation:</i> In what ways does the creation story from Genesis 1 reflect your relationship with God? Hearing this creation story again today, how do you think our Triune God is calling us? What are some of our responsibilities to care for God's creation? What changes are called forth in the way that we have shaped our lives?</p>
<p>Sunday, June 14, 2020</p> <p>Second Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p><i>Genesis 18.1-15</i> <i>Psalms 116.1-2, 12-19 (UMH 837)</i> <i>Romans 5.1-8</i> <i>Matthew 9.35-10.8 (9-23)</i></p>	<p><i>For Reflection and Conversation:</i> In what ways do you most often experience God's presence in your life? In what ways have you most often experienced God's presence through the life of another person? In what ways have you been able to represent God's presence in the life of another person? What changes might you make to do so more fully and consistently?</p>
<p>Sunday, June 21, 2020</p> <p>Third Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p><i>Genesis 21.8-21</i> <i>Psalms 86.1-10, 16-17 (UMH 749)</i> <i>Romans 6.1b-11</i> <i>Matthew 10.24-39</i></p>	<p><i>For Reflection and Conversation:</i> What does the story of Sarah and Hagar (Genesis 21) say to us about God? What does it say to us about ourselves? What does this story suggest to us about how we might treat one another more justly?</p>
<p>Sunday, June 28, 2020</p> <p>Fourth Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p><i>Genesis 22.1-14</i> <i>Psalms 13 (UMH 746)</i> <i>Romans 6.12-23</i> <i>Matthew 10.40-42</i></p>	<p><i>For Reflection and Conversation:</i> What blessing might God be asking you to return? Why? What might be the outcome? What does faithfulness to God's calling actually, tangibly, mean in your life right now?</p>

Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, June 7):

God of the living, from whom all blessings flow,
 I welcome a new day with thanksgiving
 because you have cared for me through the night.
 Wherever you send me today, whomever I shall meet,
 be in my going and my meeting.
 Fill me with your Spirit
 that I may show courage and compassion
 in all things.
 Show me the ways I may serve you
 throughout the day and into the night
 so that, waking or sleeping, I live for you. Amen.

Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, June 7):

Thank you for being with me, O God.
 Let me not forget the joys you put in my life today.
 Send your Spirit to fill my memories
 with comfort and peace
 as I prepare to rest this night.
 Where I have failed to please you, forgive me.
 If I have been a help to others,
 let them give thanks to you. Amen.

Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, June 14):

Holy Presence, let me be with you today.
 Awaken my senses to the wonders of your creation,
 and fill me with compassion
 for every person I meet.
 Make me watchful so that I do not harm anyone.
 Fill my inward being with the love of Christ,
 and let others know your presence through me.
 In this way, let me glorify you,
 Holy One, Holy Three, Amen.

Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, June 14):

Maker of day and night,
 Creator of sun, moon, planets, and stars,
 thank you for your protection through the day;
 now guard me through the coming night.
 As I settle into sleep, recall to my mind
 each blessing you have me while I was awake.
 Grant me peace, rest, and renewal.
 Let me rise again to give thanks and praise to you.
 Amen.

Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, June 21):

O God, I praise you as I rise up this morning.
 You are the giver of all life,
 and you provide for what you have made.
 Be with me this day,
 and teach me to be thankful.
 Move me to be generous toward others,
 sharing not only material goods
 but also time, patience, and kindness.
 By your Holy Spirit, let me speak peace,
 let me do peace, let me be peace,
 in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, June 21):

Creator of heavens and earth,
 light and darkness, day and night,
 I thank you for the day just past
 and for the night that lies ahead.
 I pray for your forgiveness for things I did
 that were displeasing to you
 and for missed opportunities to show your love.
 Let me rest tonight, trusting in the grace of Christ.
 Restore me, and let me rise again to a new day,
 giving you thanks and praise in all things. Amen.

Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, June 28):

I rise this day by the power of your Spirit, God.
 I lift up my hands, my heart,
 and my songs to praise you.
 Be for me today the guardian in my weakness,
 a friend on my journey, and my goal in all I do.
 Whether the day is bright or gloomy, be my light.
 And when night begins to fall, bid me home—
 be my home, that I may find rest in you. Amen.

Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, June 28):

O Creator of all,
 let me see your name written in creation,
 let me hear you pass gently
 in the evening's breeze.
 Let me put my trust in you and find my rest in you.
 Give me strength to rise again tomorrow,
 bearing witness with heart and hands to your love.
 Amen.



YOUTH GROUP

Stay up to date with youth ministry by being added to, or updating your information, on the Remind app. Contact Pastor Carrie to do so. Have a teen neighbor or grandchild? Invite them to be added to our list. They'll learn about youth group over tech on Wednesdays, virtual concerts and speaker events like Youth Annual Conference, service opportunities, and a few safe in-person events over the summer. We're excited to see you - whether it's by screen or 6+feet away outside!

YOUTH WORK MISSION - TAKE 2

While we had hoped to be at Henderson Settlement this month, the pandemic changed our plans. But God is good and gave us another faithful mission closer to home. We will be able to serve our community in a safe way, and sleep in our own homes overnight.

Please be in prayer for our youth and adults who will be serving at Nehemiah Mission June 22-23. We hope to go back in August - contact Pastor Carrie if you're interested in joining us then.

Contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.

JOIN US FOR

AN AT-HOME/VIRTUAL VBS

JULY 20-24



Children of all ages, including grown-ups, are encouraged to join us for Vacation Bible School!

Register between June 10 and July 10 at www.umcb.online-formation-resources.

Then pick up your bag of supplies July 18 or July 19 on the church front porch.

We'll livestream VBS each morning on a private Facebook group where you can comment and send in your pictures. When livestream is over, enjoy crafts, games, and mission projects from your home or yard!

For more information, contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.



Read & Grow
Book Discussion Group

MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2020

In May, we had a Zoom meeting with eight people joining our group. We hope you will plan attend in Monday, June 8 at 6:30 PM. If possible, we will meet in person, practicing social distancing and masks, to choose our book list for 2020-2021 or we can meet through Zoom technology to choose our book list for 2020-2021. We will determine this by June 1.

If you have any questions, please contact **Jan Harlamert** at 440-243-7126 or janharlamert@yahoo.com.



GRACE WILL LEAD US HOME

The Charleston Church Massacre and the Hard, Inspiring Journey to Forgiveness

Read by Karen Chilton, introduction read by the author
JENNIFER BERRY HAWES
WINNER OF THE PULITZER PRIZE

SUMMER BOOK CLUB:
GRACE WILL LEAD US HOME
BY JENNIFER BERRY HAWES
MONDAY, JUNE 29 AT 6:30 PM

On Monday, June 29 at 6:30 pm, all are welcome to join us for a discussion of the book, *Grace Will Lead Us Home: The Charleston Church Massacre and the Hard, Inspiring Journey to Forgiveness*, by Jennifer Berry Hawes. (Our meeting location—whether in person or online and by phone—will be determined closer to the date of our meeting; please contact Pastor Nathan to express your interest in participating so that you can be kept informed.)

Five years ago, on June 17, 2015, twelve members of the historically black Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina, welcomed a young white man named Dylann Roof into their evening Bible study. Nine of them were shot and killed by Roof in an attempt to start a “race war.” Two days later, relatives of some of those who had been killed stood at Roof’s hearing and offered forgiveness, but that offer of forgiveness was just the beginning of a long journey toward healing. In *Grace Will Lead Us Home*, Pulitzer Prize-winning local journalist Jennifer Berry Hawes provides a definitive account of the aftermath of this tragedy, sketching a story of how a community begins to heal.

Copies of *Grace Will Lead Us Home* can be purchased through most retailers or borrowed through our Cuyahoga County Public Library system. If you need help finding a copy—or for other additional information—please contact Pastor Nathan at nhowe@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x101.

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN

Last month we celebrated the Festival of the Christian Family/ Mother’s Day. Methodists have a connection with Mother’s Day that is unique!

Anna Jarvis remembered her mother, who taught Sunday School in Grafton, West Virginia, at the community’s Methodist church.. The death of Jarvis’ mother motivated her to begin what became a nationwide movement to establish the second Sunday in June as “Mother’s Day.”

By 1914 President Wilson made it official. Let us celebrate in honor of mothers and all who have acted as mothers! We also thank God for the people who guide us on our Christian walk – mothers, fathers, and other angels on earth.

Jo Swanson





FEED THE KIDS

We will again be supporting the Feed the Kids project supported by local Berea churches. Our week to serve is July 20th. Stay tuned for more information and how to help. For now, please know that we are doing this in as safe a way as possible with just two distribution days (multiple meals per bag(and drive-up/walk-up contactless pick up.



Questions or want to be added to the list of those ready to help?

Contact Pastor Carrie at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.



Dear UMCB Friends:

It is with a heavy heart that I make this official, we need to cancel Strawberry Festival for this year. This isn't an event that we can reschedule without sacrificing the wonderful fresh strawberries that we expect. This year would have been the 50th anniversary of Strawberry Festival! Be sure to mark your calendars for Tuesday, June 8, 2021 when we will celebrate this milestone together! I will continue to coordinate this event at least through next year. I hope all of you are staying healthy and safe during these unprecedented times.

Peace to all of you,
Jill Bush



LETTERS FOR IMMIGRANTS IN DETENTION CENTERS

We are collecting letters of support and encouragement to be sent to those in detention centers. During this pandemic, these places are of particular concern for people to be held. Let's do what we can in advocacy, and by sending our support and love.

- ❖ **Write as a friend.** You are not writing as a doctor, lawyer or counselor.
- ❖ **Respect their personal power.** While they may be temporarily vulnerable, those in detention are courageous, intelligent and resourceful people. Many have had business careers, speak several languages, and have been leaders in their homeland and attended university.
- ❖ **Use Cheerful cards** (blank, colorful cards are a great choice, so are ones with pictures *printed* on them. Ideas: draw/print hearts or other shapes on colored paper, cut out, write message inside)
- ❖ **No stickers, glitter, bows, sequins can be on the cards or envelopes.** Check cards carefully if you're purchasing them! You also cannot glue or tape paper on paper, or pictures on paper. Cards with any kind of adornment will be thrown out.
- ❖ **Do not seal the envelopes!**
- ❖ Write **E**- English, **S** - Spanish, **F** - French, **E/S** for a combo of English and Spanish on the back of the envelope, in small print, to indicate the language used on the card.

Send your letters to Pastor Carrie at the church. She will box and send them all to a group working with the Methodist Federation for Social Change.

Visit our website

(<http://www.umcb.org/resources-for-connecting-supporting-our-community/>)

for great ideas of supportive phrases and how to write them in Spanish.

Thank you!

The Caller

The United Methodist Church of Berea
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Berea, OH 44017
www.umcb.org

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Our Mission

Our mission is to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

We live into our mission by:

